



Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

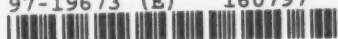
S/1997/548
15 July 1997
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 14 JULY 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the letter dated 14 July 1997 addressed to you by Mr. Mohamed Said Al-Sahaf, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq, on the subject of the actions of the United States Government and the measures it is taking to undermine the security and sovereignty of Iraq and to intervene flagrantly in its internal affairs.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative



ANNEX

Letter dated 14 July 1997 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs
of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General

With reference to the letter I wrote to you on 4 November 1996 concerning the actions of the Government of the United States of America and the measures it is taking to undermine the sovereignty of Iraq and the unity of its territory, as well as to the flagrant intervention of that Government in the internal affairs of my country, I wish to draw your attention to the information which appeared in the Washington Post of 26 June 1997, as well as to that given in a television programme broadcast the same day on the American ABC network, which confirmed that the United States Government continues to pursue towards Iraq an official policy based on intervention in the internal affairs of my country, and to take measures and engage in concrete and deliberate action designed to threaten the national security of Iraq and place it in danger.

The information which appeared in the Washington Post under the title "How CIA's Secret War on Saddam Collapsed", along with the information given in Peter Jennings' television programme under the title "Unfinished Business: The CIA and Saddam Hussein", contains inter alia testimony from top-ranking officials in the United States Administration and other allied agents which clearly and unambiguously demonstrates the extent of the plot concocted by the Government of the United States of America to change the regime in power in Iraq.

The Washington Post article states that Warren Marik of the CIA said he did everything he could think of and was permitted to do in order to overthrow President Saddam Hussein. He also claims to have organized flights of unmanned aircraft over Baghdad to drop leaflets hostile to Iraq, and he organized military training and arms supplies to rebels in northern Iraq. He oversaw spending of millions of dollars to produce radio scripts and video tapes designed to encourage an uprising against the Iraqi political regime and used every possible means, including arms and money, to separate the north from the rest of Iraqi territory, despite the obvious and undeniable commitment of the Iraqi people to territorial unity under the leadership of President Saddam Hussein, even though the Iraqis consider him to be the symbol of independence, as confirmed by his election to the Presidency of the Republic of Iraq by an overwhelming majority. Marik also states that he persuaded a lackey named Ahmed Chalabi and the members of the so-called Iraqi National Congress to work for the CIA and recruited various groups of agents and mercenaries to organize an armed attack against the institutions of the Iraqi State. He organized an attempted coup d'état against the regime. Warren Marik has acknowledged that considerable sums of money, at least \$100 million, were swallowed up by these efforts, just as he has acknowledged the role played by the United States Senate Intelligence Committee in mounting a secret action against the legitimate authorities of Iraq and preparing a programme of aggression against Iraq to topple the regime in power, despite the duplicitous statements by senior United States Administration officials to the effect that they would not use such heinous procedures against foreign Heads of State. Marik adds that he and the group which accompanied him in the north of Iraq

/...

launched a political programme aimed at reducing the authorities' control over the country until it was limited solely to the city of Baghdad, as the CIA had done earlier in Afghanistan and against the Soviet Union during the cold war. This reveals the true nature of the goal pursued by the Government of the United States through the establishment of two no-fly zones in the north and south of Iraq, even though the zones have no basis at all either in the Charter of the United Nations or the relevant resolutions of the Security Council.

Warren Marik says inter alia that the former President of the United States, George Bush, ordered the CIA to organize sabotage operations in order to topple the regime in power in Iraq. Mention should also be made of the establishment by the CIA of radio and relay stations to broadcast hostile propaganda to Jeddah, Kuwait, Cairo and Amman in which Iraqi officers, among others, were urged to desert and abandon the Iraqi armed forces. The author of the article states also that the United States Senate Intelligence Committee authorized the CIA to set up a secret, semi-permanent American group in the north of Iraq to train rebels, outlaws and bands of brigands and mercenaries and to supply them with matériel to conduct sabotage, assassination and plundering operations with a view to toppling the political regime in power. Two members of the Senate Intelligence Committee illegally entered the north of Iraq, thereby demonstrating the extent to which the United States was prepared to trample on Iraqi national sovereignty. Warren Marik also revealed the existence of a plan aimed at launching an armed attack on 4 March 1995 against garrisons of the Iraqi army at Mosul and Kirkuk. The attack was to be led by rebels, saboteurs, brigands and outlaws. The article also states that the CIA agent asked the CIA lackey Ahmed Chalabi to use his contacts with the ayatollahs in power in Iran to convey to them the message that "Washington would look with favor on Iran moving troops along its border to distract Saddam as the offensive began". A meeting did indeed take place in Salahuddin with two Iranian intelligence operatives, which testifies to the nature and magnitude of the conspiracy and highlights the duplicity and immorality of the conduct of the United States and its policy of aggression against Iraq.

As to the televised broadcast prepared by Peter Jennings, which covered events similar to those reported in the Washington Post article, it is enough to mention what was said regarding United States President Clinton's statement that his policy of economic sanctions and military containment was designed to muzzle Iraq. These words of the United States President are sufficiently hostile in themselves. However, it is becoming increasingly evident every day that the statement just cited contradicts the truth, since, as Jennings said, belying President Clinton's words, "Such was not the initial objective". It is quite obvious that all the past acts committed by the United States Administration and those which it continues to commit are not aimed at implementing the Security Council resolutions and upholding international legality, as is claimed, but rather are targeted at the person of the Iraqi President. This was confirmed by Brent Scowcroft, the National Security Adviser of former President Bush, who in response to a question on the subject stated "Yes, I believe that that is true". John Deutch, former Director of Central Intelligence, confirmed to Peter Jennings that the intelligence operative who was in charge of organizing the armed attack in March 1995 informed his superiors about the schemes which he was preparing and implementing in the north of Iraq, as well as about the CIA payment of \$6 million to former Iraqi army officers for supporting this base

/...

operation and the secret introduction into Iraq of highly sophisticated transmission equipment making direct communication with the CIA possible.

The plot hatched against Iraq by the United States Administration is not limited to the use by United States officials of various odious methods designed to bring about a change in Iraq's political system, as described in the news items published by the Washington Post and broadcast by the American television network ABC: the United States Government also does not hesitate to use the Security Council and its resolutions to further its plot against Iraq.

In its 23 October 1991 issue, the French newspaper Libération published information given to it by a French expert serving on one of the inspection teams of the Special Commission of the Security Council presided over by Swedish Ambassador Rolf Ekéus. The following is an extract from the Libération article:

"The other surprise for this expert was the behaviour of some of his American colleagues. There were obviously secret agents and CIA operatives who were working for their own organization rather than for the United Nations. Their job definitely involved gathering information, but it also involved behaving provocatively towards Baghdad in order to justify intervention by the United States Air Force, which would return to complete its mission."

This extract from the French newspaper article is only a drop in the ocean of evidence pointing to the United States Administration's overt and impertinent exploitation of certain inspection teams of the Special Commission presided over by Rolf Ekéus for the past six years. The reason for assigning these teams to tasks that were not part of their job or their mandate was obviously to enable spies from United States intelligence services to implement their country's hostile policy towards Iraq and to obstruct the Special Commission's work so that the infamous blockade imposed against Iraq could be maintained on pretexts that have nothing to do with the resolutions of the Security Council or the mandate of the Special Commission.

All of this shows beyond a shadow of doubt that the United States is engaging in military activities designed to overthrow the regime in power in Iraq and to foment a civil war in the country, by organizing, encouraging and funding the above-mentioned activities in violation of the Charter of the United Nations and, more particularly, the 1970 Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States, as well as the principles of international law prohibiting the organization of such activities against another State. These activities are also in violation of Security Council resolutions on Iraq which reaffirm the need to respect the security and sovereignty of Iraq, the unity of its territory and its political independence.

These incontrovertible facts and evidence make it perfectly clear that all the allegations which the United States is constantly making against Iraq are simply slanders designed to conceal its evil acts of aggression against Iraq. The Security Council must therefore assume its responsibilities under the Charter of the United Nations and demand that the United States end its hostile

/...

actions and cease its flagrant intervention in Iraq's internal affairs and its threats to Iraq's security, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The Government of the Republic of Iraq formally requests that you look into this grave matter and work seriously for an end to these illegal actions, which form part of official United States policy.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohamed Said AL-SAHAF
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq
